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Senator-Elect Cassis Chosen to Head Finance Committee

(LANSING) – Senate Majority Leader-elect Ken Sikkema today announced that incoming Senator Nancy Cassis will serve as chairwoman of the Senate Committee on Finance for the 2003-2006 legislative session.

"This is an exciting opportunity for me and I am confident that this selection will only benefit the citizens of the 15th Senate District," Cassis said. "While I am pleased that Senate Majority Leader Sikkema chose me for this important role, I am looking forward to working with my new Senate colleagues – Republicans and Democrats – to pass legislation that positively affects Michigan residents."

As chair of the Finance Committee Cassis will be responsible for overseeing committee legislation that primarily deals with business matters as well as tax issues.

"Representative Cassis's experience as chair of the House Tax Policy Committee brings a tremendous amount of leadership to the Senate Finance Committee," Sikkema, R-Wyoming, said. "Her ability to work on a bipartisan level will only prove a valuable asset to the businesses and residents of Michigan."

Cassis, R-Novi, brings plenty of experience to the Finance Committee as she has chaired the House Tax Policy Committee for the past three years. She has served in the House since 1996 when she took office in a special election and has been re-elected in each election since.

Cassis received her bachelor's degree from Ohio University and her master's as well as her education specialist degree from the University of Michigan. She is active in several Novi community organizations and has received numerous awards including the National Republican Legislators Association's National Republican Legislator of the Year award in 1999, the Michigan Credit Union League's Legislator of the Year award in 1999 and the Michigan Manufacturers' House Advocate of the Year Award in 2001.